

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (CJPAC)

Thursday, March 26, 2015
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman *Mike Lawlor*, Under Secretary, Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division, OPM; *Judge Carroll*, Chief Court Administrator, Judicial Branch; *Gary Roberge*, Director of Adult and Bail Services, Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch; *Carleton J. Giles*, Chairman, Board of Pardons and Paroles; *Josh Howroyd*, Legislative Program Manager, DCF; *Dora B. Schriro*, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection; *Laura Cordes*, Director, CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services; *Scott Semple*, Commissioner, Department of Correction; *Karen Martucci*, Director of External Affairs, Department of Correction; *Dr. Michael Norko*, Director of Forensics Service Division, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services; *Dennis Murphy*, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Labor; *Karen Jarmoc*, Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; *Kevin Kane*, Chief State's Attorney; *Brian Carlow*, Deputy Chief Public Defender; *Chief James Kenny*, Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association; *Sean Thakkar*, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Information Systems; *Hakima Bey-Coon*, Staff Attorney, Office of the Victim Advocate

I. Welcome and Policy Update

Chairman Lawlor convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone and announced that CT-N will be taping the meeting.

Link to CT-N coverage: <http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/ctnplayer.asp?odID=11349>

Chairman Lawlor outlined the agenda briefly mentioning that there would be no standalone presentation. There would however be a presentation featuring statistics about recidivism under RREC from Ivan Kuzyk and OPM. At 10:30 a Justice Center report will be presented. Gary Roberge will discuss the governors second change initiative.

The Monthly Indicators Report can be found on the OPM website at:

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/monthlyindicators/monthlyindicatorsreport_march_2015.pdf

Chairman Lawlor discussed a study by the Justice Center "In Brief: Examining the Changing Racial Composition of Three States' Prison Populations".

II. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated what agency they represented.

III. Approval of Minutes from February 26, 2015

The minutes were approved.

IV. Commission Correspondence

There was no commission correspondence.

V. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation: Recidivism of Offenders receiving RREC: A follow-up to OPM's 2012 analysis

Link to Power Point Presentation:

<http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjcjpac/20150325powerpointcjpac.pdf>

VI. Agency Updates

Members provided updates on their agencies and latest initiatives.

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) –Two domestic violence homicides occurred recently, these are the first in the year 2015. Their policy agenda is moving forward. They have been awarded a contract and are working collaboratively with Hartford Hospital to understand the improvement of screening and training within the healthcare industry for victims of domestic violence.

Judicial Branch-Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD) – CSSD have submitted initiatives that complement the Governor's Second Chance Society proposals. They are targeting non-violent defendants and offenders in DOC. First initiative: Expanding the use of graduated sanctions for technical violations of probation. They are looking to expand notice to appear instead of the use of a warrant for restitution cases. Second sanction is working with DOC to identify defendants that may be appropriate for the release pursuant to 18-100F; the DOC Commissioner has the authority to release people in pre-trial status, if the DOC decides to do this. Third initiative is working with DMHAS to maximize the use of contracted treatment beds. Last initiative is increasing utilization of intensive pretrial supervision. There are many bond modifications that CSSD is requesting, and the court is agreeing with them. CSSD met with Chief States Attorney Office about this idea and discussed the group they are targeting for this initiative. This group scores low on the safety risk questions, but have lengthy histories. The Smart Probation Grant coming to the end, preliminary data is indicating positive results for recidivism rates post training. They are waiting on the final data for this project. CSSD is planning to implement an automated notification system for people with upcoming court dates and probation. They are hoping by fall to incorporate the contracted network.

Department of Children and Family – The Annie E Casey Foundation released a case study referencing Connecticut. Below is a link to the case study:

<http://www.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-TheConnecticutTurnaroundCaseStudy2-2015.pdf>

Administration of the Courts – They would like to make their position known on proposed move of CSSD out of the judicial branch.

Division of Public Defender Services – They have been trying to address an increase in the number of habeas corpus cases due to the reform from 2012, which has caused expected budget impacts. The principal reason for increases is because of the 2012 legislation. Chairman Lawlor asked for data about this phenomenon.

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) – There has been a change in leadership at DMHAS, since Pat Remer resigned as commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner is now the acting Commissioner.

Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) – March 26th, 2015 is Sean Thacker's last day at CJIS, he has accepted a job in California.

Office of the Victim Advocate – The Victims' Rights Enforcement Advisory Commission will meet on the first Thursday of the month from 10-12 at the Chief States Attorney Office. They are finding gaps where victims are having a difficult time exercising rights that they have and there is not a remedy in place for crime victim. The Commission hopes to come up with strong recommendations.

Department of Labor (DOL) – The DOL is working with DOC to continue a dialog around the Governor's Second Chance Initiative. The DOL recognizes licensing is a barrier to people leaving prison and gaining employment.

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – DESPP reported the use of Narcan in response to overdose persons is up to 23. DESPP Advisory Group noticed that many of the Narcan saves are people who have recently been incarcerated. Troopers are administering lethality risk assessment. There has been a grant submission to DOJ. POST graduated 29 recruits last Thursday, the next class will graduate in June. DESPP will appear before the bonds subcommittee later today to expand the lab, storage, the EOC, and work on facilities.

Department of Correction (DOC) – The prison population is continuing to decrease. The DOC is fully immersed into the Governor's Second Chance Society initiatives. The Reintegration Center kick-off is on April 21st.

Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services (CONNSACS) – CONNSACS is working on legislation that impacts victims of sexual violence. The DOC will be at CONNSACS to discuss RREC. CONNSACS is partnering with state agencies around the PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act).

Board of Pardons and Paroles (BOPP) – BOPP heard 162 Offenders and had a grant rate of 54%. BOPP awarded the first certificate of employability recently. The BOPP hosted a visit from the Chief of Interpol in Montenegro.

Subcommittee Updates/Reports – Behavioral Health Sub Committee: NA, PJOC Sub Committee: met last week, working on governor’s initiatives, next meeting a presenter will be coming, Victim Issues Sub Committee: Next meeting Tuesday April 7 10-11:30, victims’ rights enforcement committee first Thursday of the month, next meeting April 2 10-12.

Adjournment

Chairman Lawlor reminded committee members of the next meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2015. He adjourned the meeting at 11 a.m.